



# October 16 2006

# Darfur

- Local dailies highlighted the meeting of U.S. Special Envoy Andrew Natsios with Vice President Ali Osman Taha. Taha stated that he GOS is willing to dialogue with the U.S. instead of having confrontation. He also stated that the GOS vowed to bring peace in Darfur based on the Abuja peace agreement. *(Al-Aayam, Al-Sahafa, et al)*
- U.S. Special Envoy Natsios confirmed that his mission is based on dialogue with the GOS to find a solution to the current crisis and it is the intention of the U.S. Government to develop the bilateral relations between the two countries. *(Al-Aayam, Al-Sahafa, et al)*
- British Envoy to Sudan Hilary Benn will be arriving Khartoum today to discuss UNSC Resolution 1706 with the GOS. Benn will meet with President Al-Bashir and other government officials. *(Al-Aayam, Al-Rai Al-Aam et al)*
- The Cabinet announced the formation of a high committee headed by President Al-Bashir to oversee implementation of the DPA in Darfur and disarmament the Janjaweed within two months. *(Al-Khartoum, Al-Sahfa, et al)*
- Eritrea has begun to mediate between anti-DPA rebel groups and the GOS. The rebel groups have responded positively to the Eritrean initiative emphasizing that talks must involve all factions. *(Al-Rai Al-Aam)*

- Minority Rights Group International has issued a report saying that early signs of ethnic tensions in Darfur were ignored years before the catastrophe unfolded. (*BBC*)
- Editorial: Today's *Washington Post* editorial "Arabs to the rescue?" asks whether an Arab and Muslim peacekeeping force could make a difference in resolving the crisis in Darfur.

## East Sudan

- Vice President Salva Kiir describes the recent peace agreement of Eastern Sudan as a complementary part of the Naivasha agreement... (*Al-Aayam, Rai Al-Shaab, et al*)

## Quote of the Day

“We are willing to move the relations with Washington from confrontation to dialogue.” – Vice President Taha

Cartoon is from Akhir Lahza Arabic daily



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